

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT:NB

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

AF/E:WBCOOTE

NEA:ALATHERTON

AF:EWMULCAHY

S/S :FORTIZ

----- 102450

R 292338Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100048

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, ET, US

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN REACTION TO US PRESENTATION ON ERITREAN
ISSUE

REF: DAMASCUS 1530 (NOTAL)

1. FOR DAMASCUS: SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE BY EMBASSY ADDIS,
YOU MAY TELL PRESIDENT ASAD THAT, IN RESPONSETO AMB.
HUMMEL'S PRESENTATION UNDER REFERENCE, WE WERE ASSURED BY
PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT (PMG) THATIT SHARES OUR
VIEWS REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF A POLITICALSOLUTION TO THE
ERITREAN PROBLEM AND IS ACTIVELY SEEKING AFORMULA WHICH
WOULD PROVIDE ERITREA WITH THE LOCAL AUTONOMY WHICH PMG
CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE FOR SUCH ASOLUTION.

2. PMG HAS SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED US THAT, IN ADDITION TO
CONTINUED CONTACT WITH SUDAN, IT HAS ESTABLISHEDCONTACT
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WITH THE INSURGENTS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION OF
THEIR VIEWS BUT THAT AN IMPORTANT DIFFICULTY IS ASCERTAINING
WHICH GROUP AMONG THEM CAN REALLY SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY.
ONCE THIS PROBLEM IS RESOLVED PMG HOPES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE

TO PROCEED WITH MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS. ONE OF PROBLEMS
IS CONTINUED ELF/PLF UNWILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE EXCEPT ON
BASIS PRECONDITION OF AN INDEPENDENT ERITREA, WHICH IS
UNACCEPTABLE TO PMG.

3. FOR ADDIS: IF EMBASSY APPROVES, PLEASE INFORM DAMASCUS
DIRECTLY, INFO DEPT., SO THAT CONTENTS OF PARAS 1 AND 2
CAN BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT ASAD. OTHERWISE ADDIS SHOULD
SUBMIT COMMENTS TO DEPT., INFO DAMASCUS. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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